

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
50/41

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1023

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 2 Audubon Road

Historic Name Fred & Ida Newhall House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1911

Source Lexington Valuation Lists

Style/Form Shingle/Craftsman Style

Architect/Builder Willard Brown

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

attached garage

Major Alterations (with dates) 2000 - rear addition

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 12,775 SF

Setting early 20th century residential area at corner
of Mass. Ave.



Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) April 2000

BUILDING FORM (2 Audubon Road)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

(see also 20 Meriam St., MHC #382)

An eclectic early 20th century dwelling designed by local architect Willard Brown. 2 Audubon Road is a 2 1/2-story, side-gabled dwelling which is sheathed in wood shingles above a rubble stone foundation. The house is oriented with its broad facade facing Audubon and its north gable end facing Mass. Ave. The curving up of the eave line into a flattened ellipse is a feature which is seen on several other known Brown designs including 28 Merriam Street (MHC #385).

At the north end of the west facade, the sidehall entry is fronted by wooden steps with a stick balustrade. It is sheltered by a gable with a curved raking and is supported by two large brackets. The front door has 3 x 3-panes over two recessed panels. The door surround is eared at the bottom. Adjacent to the entrance, a single-story, shed roofed section projects about a foot from the front wall, with the wood shingles extending nearly to the ground. The projection displays exposed rafters and is punctuated by a set of three 6/1 windows. To the south of the projection, the front wall of the house is punctuated by an individual 6/1 window. The second floor of the facade is punctuated by three 6/1 windows. Above the windows, the edge of the gable roof bulges, displaying exposed rafters. On the gable ends the projecting eaves display a raking which curves at the ends, supported by brackets at the ends.

The south end of the house is two bays wide with 6/1 windows. Spanning the west half of the elevation is a wide wooden porch displaying Craftsman-inspired porch posts consisting of clusters of thin square sticks with intersecting horizontals acting like a capital at the top. The porch posts are spanned by a porch railing consisting of sets of three stick balusters alternating with a single wider baluster. The porch is set above a wooden base with inset latticed panels. The roofline incorporates exposed rafters.

On the north end facing Mass. Ave. the placement of the windows is more random with 6/1 sash of several sizes and 3 x 2-light fixed units. On the rear elevation the bulging roofline is repeated. At the northeast corner of the house is an addition with lower level garage. Capped by a hip roof and nearly square in plan, each face of the building is punctuated by four 2 x 2-light windows placed high on the wall. The hip-roofed clerestory monitor top is lit by transom lights. Two arched lower level entrances face Mass Avenue with vertical board doors. Between the house and the addition there is an angled corner projection lit on each side by a 3 x 4-light window.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

(see 277 Waltham St., MHC #461)

The house at 2 Audubon Street was constructed in 1911 for Fred and Ida Newhall. In 1911 Fred Newhall of Saugus was assessed for just the lot (part of Lot 20 on the 1903 Plan of land in Lexington owned by Augustus Scott). The following year, Ida Newhall's assessment includes a house valued at \$4,500. The house was designed by local architect Willard Brown.

In the late 1920s and early 1930s the house was occupied by Harry and Ida Ripley. By 1942 Fred and Ingrid Newhall were occupying the house. He was a bank officer of the Lexington Trust Company. The property was sold by the Newhalls to Elinor and Henriette Oberteuffer in 1954.

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Town
Lexington

Property Address
2 Audubon Road
Area(s) Form No.

	1023
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BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Grady, Anne. "The Architecture of Willard D. Brown." Paper submitted to AM 785, Boston University, 1986. On file at the Lexington Historical Society, Lexington, MA.

Lexington Assessors Records.

Lexington Directories, various dates.

Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Lexington Survey.

Schoenhut, Sarah Emily Brown to Anne A. Grady. Correspondence in possession of Anne A. Grady, Lexington, Mass. (Schoenhut list #13).



Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community Property Address

Lexington 2 Audubon Road

Area(s)

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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible only in a historic district
☐ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by: Lisa Mausolf

Justify criteria that are checked in the above sections:

The Fred and Ida Newhall House at 2 Audubon Road meets Criterion C for individual listing on the National Register as an excellent and relatively unaltered example of the work of Willard Dalrymple Brown, a prominent Lexington architect. The house possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.